

Message Text

PAGE 01 PANAMA 06481 022344Z

73

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O P 022300Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9207

INFO USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 408

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 6481

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PN, SNAR

SUBJ: RENEWAL OF JACK ANDERSON ALLEGATIONS OF PANAMANIAN
OFFICIALS' INVOLVEMENT IN NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING

REF: MORRIS/BELL TELECON 12/1/73

1. DEPUTY FOR PANAMA NEGOTIATIONS TO AMBASSADOR AT LARGE ADVISED FOREIGN MINISTER EVENING OF DECEMBER 2 THAT PANAMA AND U.S. MAY WELL BE IN FOR ANOTHER ROUND OF ANDERSONIAN ALLEGATIONS RESPECTING PARTICIPATION OF PANAMANIAN OFFICIALS IN NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING. EMPHASIZED THAT DEPARTMENT HAD TRIED TO PRECLUDE PUBLICATION OF COLUMN (PRESUMABLY IN TUESDAY MORNING WASHINGTON POST) BY (A) ASSERTING THAT ANDERSON'S ALLEGATIONS ARE SIMPLY A REHASH OF HIS PREVIOUS COLUMN, (B) GIVING HIM FACTS ON SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN PANAMANIAN EFFORTS AGAINST TRAFFICKING AND ON COOPERATION WITH U.S. OFFICIALS OVER PAST YEAR OR SO, AND (C) SUGGESTING THAT ANDERSON'S INFORMANTS--IN PAST CONGRESSMAN MURPHY, AMONG OTHERS -- COULD BE TRYING DELIBERATELY TO SABOTAGE CURRENT NEGOTIATING EFFORTS. ADDED THAT DEPARTMENT IS PREPARED UPON PUBLICATION OF STORY TO ISSUE DETAILED CATEGORICAL DENIAL OF ALLEGATIONS.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSED GREAT APPRECIATION FOR ADVANCE NOTICE, SAID "IT IS UNQUESTIONABLY MURPHY," AND ADDED THAT IN VIEW OF DEPARTMENT'S INTENTION TO MAKE CATEGORICAL DENIAL HE WOULD REFRAIN FROM ANY PUBLIC COMMENTS WHATEVER.
CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, DRUG TRAFFIC, PANAMA CANAL TREATY, NEGOTIATIONS, GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL, ALLEGATIONS
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Draft Date: 02 DEC 1973
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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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